

REMARKS

This application is being filed concurrently with entry into the National Stage (Chapter 1) of International Application No. PCT/GB2005/000354 which claims the priority of Great Britain Patent Application No. 0402625.8.

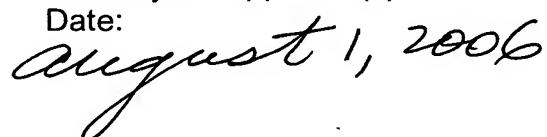
This Preliminary Amendment was considered when calculating the filing fee. Accordingly, the total number of claims specified on the Transmittal Letter is 37 and the number of independent claims is 2.

The Specification has been amended to place the application in proper U.S. format. Headings have been added to each section.

Claims 1-30 remain in the application and claim 31 has been canceled. Claims 32-38 are new. New claim 32 includes the limitations of claim 5, 9, 11, 12 and 13. New claim 33 includes the limitations from claims 7, 9 and 14. Claims 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 29, and 30 have been amended to eliminate multiple dependencies in these claims and to place the claims in proper U.S. format.

Although fees for 17 extra claims have been authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2865, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 02-2865 any additional fee required by this submission.

Respectfully submitted,


Ira Lee Zebrak
Registration No. 31,147
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Date: 

The BOC Group, Inc.
Legal Services-Intellectual Property
575 Mountain Avenue
Murray Hill, NJ 07974
Phone: 908-771-6469
Fax: 908-771-6159

CUSTOMER NO.: 020411